

December 12, 1988

Mr. Peter Alscher  
1350 North Washington  
Springfield, Missouri 65802

Dear Mr. kAlscher:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Working With Your POTW published by thee Textile Rental Services Association of America. We have found this very informative on the industrial laundry question, and think it may answer your questions on the washing of shop towels.

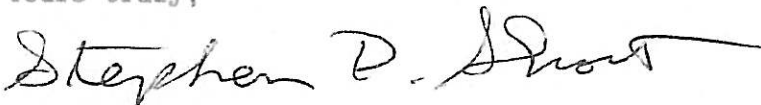
This office has observed problems in local industrial laundry operations, specifically oil and grease, heavy metals, and pH. Locally, the industry is just starting to install the necessary equipment to remove or treat the pollutants of concern.

Your question on the disposal of shop towels "wipers" in the landfill does have merit and was indirectly addressed by the Environmental Protection Agency in their promulgation of the used oil hazardous waste regulations. In 1985 the EPA estimated 13.2 million gallons of used oil was disposed of via industrial wipers. 2.9 billion wipers were cloth type and washed and reused while 7.8 billion were disposable and generally disposedd of as part of the user's regular solid waste stream.

At this time it is permissable to dispose of used wipers in the landfill, and in a related matter, the State of Missouri routinely gives special waste disposal permits for the landfilling of oil spill contaminated soil.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call 864-1924.

Yours truly,



Stephen D. Short  
Water Pollution Control Inspector II  
Surveillance & Enforcement

SDS:js

Enclosure

cc: File (2)

1350 N. WASHINGTON